

Amendments to the Claims

1. (previously presented) An apparatus including:

a security system,

wherein the system is operative to restrict access to the interior of an automated banking machine component,

wherein the system includes a database,

wherein the database includes data representative of images of individuals authorized access to the interior of the automated banking machine component,

wherein the system includes a camera,

wherein the camera is operative to capture an image of an individual,

wherein the system includes image recognition software,

wherein the software is operative to determine whether a captured image of an individual corresponds to an individual represented in the database,

wherein the system includes at least one processor,

wherein the at least one processor is operatively connected to the database and the camera,

wherein the at least one processor is operative to use the software.

45. (previously presented) The apparatus according to claim 1 and further including an automated banking machine, wherein the automated banking machine includes an automated banking machine component, wherein the component comprises a security container.

46. (previously presented) The apparatus according to claim 45 wherein the security container includes at least one currency cassette.

47. (previously presented) The apparatus according to claim 46 wherein the security container includes a lock control device, wherein access to the interior of the security container is controlled by the lock control device, and wherein the lock control device is operatively connected to the at least one processor.

48. (previously presented) The apparatus according to claim 47 wherein the at least one processor is operative to grant access to the interior of the security container responsive to a positive determination.

49. (previously presented) The apparatus according to claim 47 wherein the lock control device requires entry of multiple combinations to permit access to the interior of the security container, wherein the at least one processor is operative to reduce the number of required combinations responsive to a positive determination.

50. (previously presented) The apparatus according to claim 45 wherein the automated banking machine includes the security system.

51. (previously presented) The apparatus according to claim 1 wherein the software comprises facial recognition software, wherein the database includes data representative of facial images corresponding to respective individuals, wherein the software is operative to determine whether a captured facial image of an individual corresponds to an individual represented in the database, and wherein the at least one processor is operative to grant access to the interior of the component responsive to a positive determination.

52. (previously presented) The apparatus according to claim 51 wherein the at least one processor is operative to store a captured facial image in a file.

53. (previously presented) The apparatus according to claim 52 wherein the at least one processor is operative to store in the file the captured facial image along with a date and time of an attempted access to the interior of the component.

54. (previously presented) The apparatus according to claim 52 wherein the at least one processor is operative to store in the file the captured facial image along with a date and time of a granted access to the interior of the component.

55. (previously presented) The apparatus according to claim 54 wherein the at least one processor is operative to store a cassette serial number in the file.

56. (previously presented) The apparatus according to claim 1 and further including an automated banking machine component, wherein the component comprises a currency cassette.

57. (previously presented) The apparatus according to claim 56 wherein the cassette includes a lock control device, wherein access to the interior of the cassette is controlled by the lock control device, and wherein the lock control device is operatively connected to the at least one processor.

58. (previously presented) The apparatus according to claim 57 wherein the at least one processor is operative to grant access to the interior of the cassette responsive to a positive determination.

59. (previously presented) The apparatus according to claim 56 wherein the lock control device requires entry of multiple combinations to permit access to the interior of the cassette, wherein the at least one processor is operative to reduce the number of required combinations responsive to a positive determination.

60. (previously presented) The apparatus according to claim 56 and further including a cassette work station, wherein the work station includes the security system.

61. (previously presented) A method including:

- (a) capturing an image of an individual with a camera;
- (b) determining whether the captured image corresponds to an individual represented in a database;
- (c) responsive to a positive determination in (b), granting a level of access to the interior of an automated banking machine component.

62. (previously presented) The method according to claim 61 wherein (a) includes capturing a facial image of an individual.

63. (previously presented) The method according to claim 62 wherein (b) includes using facial recognition software.

64. (previously presented) The method according to claim 63 wherein (c) includes granting a level of access to the interior of a security container of an automated banking machine, wherein the security container includes at least one currency cassette.

65. (previously presented) The method according to claim 64 wherein the level of access comprises direct access to the interior of the automated banking machine component, wherein (c) includes granting direct access to the security container.

66. (previously presented) The method according to claim 64 wherein access to the interior of the automated banking machine component requires entry of multiple combinations corresponding to multiple levels of access, wherein (c) includes bypassing a required combination.

67. (previously presented) The method according to claim 61 wherein at least one processor is operatively connected to the database and the camera, wherein (b) includes using the at least one processor to determine whether the captured image corresponds to an individual represented in the database.

68. (previously presented) The method according to claim 67 wherein the component comprises a currency cassette, wherein (c) includes granting a level of access to the interior of the currency cassette.

69. (new) Apparatus including:

a security system,

wherein the security system is operative to restrict access to the interior of an automated teller machine (“ATM”) currency container,

wherein the security system includes a database,

wherein the database includes data representative of facial images corresponding to respective individuals authorized to access the interior of the ATM currency container,

wherein the security system includes a camera,

wherein the camera is operative to capture an image of an individual,

wherein the security system includes facial recognition software,

wherein the software is operative to determine whether a captured facial image of an individual corresponds to an individual represented in the database,

wherein the security system includes at least one processor,

wherein the at least one processor is in operative connection with the database and the camera,

wherein the at least one processor is operative to use the software,

wherein the at least one processor is operative to grant access to the interior of the ATM currency container responsive to a positive determination.

70. (new) A method comprising:

- (a) capturing image data corresponding to an image of an individual with a camera;
- (b) determining through operation of at least one processor whether the image data corresponds to data associated with an individual in a database;
- (c) responsive to a positive determination in (b), granting access to an interior area of an automated banking machine, wherein the interior area includes therein stored currency that is dispensed to machine users during financial transactions conducted through operation of the machine.